

Want Negro History In Public Schools

WASHINGTON, D. C.—Professor Charles H. Wesley, head of the Department of History of Howard University, at the request of the teachers of the District of Columbia, in the 10th-13th Divisions, conducted a round table at the annual Teachers' Institute held January 30th. The subject discussed was "Negro History in the Public School Curriculum."

This is the second appointment in successive years of Professor Wesley as institute lecturer. Strenuous efforts are being made by the local teachers to have the study of Negro History formally introduced into the school curriculum, preferably through specific courses, and if this should prove impracticable then by equipping the teachers so that collateral study may be conducted in this subject. The study of Negro contributions to civilization has been regarded as a valuable aid in the creation of interracial understanding and good-will, and the suggestion has been made that it would be a worth-while effort to have such study as a part of the work in history in the schools for both races.

HISTORICAL SOCIETY IS LAUNCHED AT LIBRARY

Owners of Large Collections of Books on Negro
Make Contributions to
New Department of
135th St. Branch.

The Negro Literary and Historical Society, organized for the purpose of preserving

After the meeting the several records of the race, made its debut Thursday evening at a meeting held at the West 135th Street Public Library. The speakers of the evening were: Miss Ernestine Rose, librarian; Prof. Alain Locke, of Howard University; Dr. Hubert Harrison, of the lecture staff of the Board of Education, and Prof. Frederick F. Hopper, of the main library. Arthur Schomburg presided.

One of the main purposes of the society is the founding of a library for research on the Negro. A large number of books lent or donated by Arthur Schomburg, Dr. Harrison, Rev. Charles Martin, George M. Young and others have already been collected on the top floor of the library. The collection will be under the special care of the public library.

Speaking on the enlightenment such a collection might shed on knowledge of the Negro, Dr. Harrison cited the case of the New York Times, which recently, in one of its editorials, referred to British West Africa as being only a collection of trading posts. On this Dr. Harrison said:

"With such a library the New York Times might hesitate to talk such placid nonsense at long range."

"Culture," he went on, "did not originate with the white race. It is the product of the entire human race, dating back 250,000 years, in which the white race has been active for only 2,500 years."

Speaking on the debt of America to the Negro, Dr. Hopper said:

"I don't think that there is any other group in America that is contributing more to the cultural

development of this nation than the Negro. I am proud that the New York Public Library is going to have a little part in the preserving of the records of the wonderful achievements of your race."

Tributes were paid to the late John G. Bruce, whose efforts have contributed so much toward the present interest in Negro history, by Arthur Schomburg, president of the society, Prof. Locke and others.

A feature of the evening was the presentation of a splendid silver loving cup to Dr. Paul Kellogg, editor of the Survey Graphic, by way of recognition for the work done by the Graphic in bringing about a better understanding between the races.

After the meeting the several hundred persons present visited the exhibition of the paintings of W. E. Braxton, now on the top floor. These are a total of 73 pastels and drawings in the exhibit.

Prof. William W. Weeks rendered piano solos.